



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

BILL BRADBURY

For Immediate Release:

March 29, 2006

Contact: Carla Corbin
Elections Division
(503) 986-1518

The Office of the Secretary of State received a certified ballot title from the Attorney General on March 28, 2006, for initiative petition #1, proposing a statutory amendment, for the General Election of November 4, 2008.

In addition, Secretary of State Bill Bradbury determined that the proposed initiative petition was in compliance with the procedural requirements established in the Oregon Constitution for initiative petitions.

The certified ballot title is as follows:

**LIMITS GROUNDS FOR REJECTING AND MODIFIES PROCEDURES FOR VERIFYING
SIGNATURES ON INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, RECALL PETITIONS**

RESULT OF "YES" VOTE: "Yes" vote limits grounds for rejecting and modifies procedures for verifying signatures on state initiative, referendum, and recall petitions; prohibits use of statistical sampling procedures.

RESULT OF "NO" VOTE: "No" vote retains current law governing the rejection and verification of signatures on state initiative, referendum, and recall petitions, including use of statistical sampling procedures.

SUMMARY: Currently, state initiative, referendum, and recall petitions must contain a certain number of qualified voters' verified signatures before the measure is placed on the ballot. Officials may verify signatures only if the petition meets all legal requirements governing circulation, signature gathering, and submission. Signatures are verified against existing registration information. Officials may use statistical sampling procedures to determine the number of valid signatures. This measure eliminates the requirement that circulators witness each signature; requires examination of each signature submitted; prohibits statistical sampling procedures; limits grounds for rejecting signatures; requires good faith effort to contact voters whose signatures are questioned; establishes procedure for submitting signatures for verification in groups of 10,000 or more; allows petition sponsor to submit signatures if chief petitioner becomes incapable. Other provisions.

Chief Petitioner(s): Bill Sizemore, PO Box 343, Beavercreek, OR 97004 and Timothy R. Trickey, 9123 SE St. Helens St Ste 175, Clackamas, OR 97015.

Copies of the text of this initiative are available at Room 141 State Capitol, for \$.25. Written requests for copies with your remittance of \$1.00 prepaid, should be addressed to: Elections Division, Room 141 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310-0722.

There now follows an appeal period of 10 business days. Any elector dissatisfied with the ballot title certified by the Attorney General, who also submitted in a timely manner written comments which addressed the specific legal standards a ballot title must meet, may petition the Supreme Court for a different title. The appeal period ends at 5:00 p.m. on April 11, 2006. The appeal procedures are outlined in ORS 250.085.

The required number of signatures for placement on the 2008 general election ballot is determined by the total votes cast for all candidates for governor at the 2006 general election. These signatures shall be filed in this office not later than July 3, 2008.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APPELLATE DIVISION

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March 28, 2006

F. L. BRADBURY
SECRETARY OF THE STATE

John Lindback
Director, Elections Division
Office of the Secretary of State
141 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310

Re: Proposed Initiative Petition — Limits Grounds For Rejecting And Modifies Procedures
For Verifying Signatures On Initiative, Referendum, Recall Petitions
DOJ File #BT-01-06; Elections Division #1

Dear Mr. Lindback:

Pursuant to ORS 250.067, we have reviewed the comments submitted in response to the draft ballot title for the above-referenced petition. We provide the enclosed certified ballot title, reflecting changes to the summary. ORAP 11.30(7) requires that this letter be included in the record in the event that the Oregon Supreme Court reviews the ballot title.

We received one comment letter submitted by Margaret Olney on behalf of commenters Chip Terhune and Larry Wolf. In that letter, commenters urge that the summary be modified so that it describes that the measure would eliminate “the requirement that circulators actually ‘witness’ the signatures on the sheets.” We agree¹ and adopt a variant of commenters proposed changes.

As certified, the amended summary states:

SUMMARY: Currently, state initiative, referendum, and recall petitions must contain a certain number of qualified voters’ verified signatures before the measure is placed on the ballot. Officials may verify signatures only if the petition meets all legal requirements governing circulation, signature gathering, and submission. Signatures are verified against existing registration information. Officials may use statistical sampling procedures to determine the number of valid signatures. This measure eliminates the requirement that circulators witness each signature; requires examination of each signature submitted; prohibits statistical sampling procedures; limits grounds for rejecting signatures; requires good faith effort to contact voters whose signatures are questioned; establishes

¹ Current law provides that “[t]he circulator shall certify on each signature sheet of the initiative petition that the individuals signed the sheet in the presence of the circulator and that the circulator believes each individual is an elector.” ORS 250.045(7).

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procedure for submitting signatures for verification in groups of 10,000 or more;
allows petition sponsor to submit signatures if chief petitioner becomes incapable.
Other provisions.

With that change, we certify the attached ballot title pursuant to ORS 250.067(2).

Sincerely,

Julie A. Smith
Assistant Attorney General

JAS:mlk/APP91730

Enclosure

c: Peter Shepherd, Deputy Attorney General
Don Arnold, General Counsel Division
Steve Wolf, General Counsel Division

Bill Sizemore
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Beavercreek, Oregon 97004

Timothy R. Trickey
9123 SE St. Helens Street, Suite 175
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

Margaret S. Olney
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1500 NE Irving Street, Suite 370
Portland, Oregon 97232

BALLOT TITLE

**LIMITS GROUNDS FOR REJECTING AND MODIFIES PROCEDURES
FOR VERIFYING SIGNATURES ON INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM,
RECALL PETITIONS**

RESULT OF "YES" VOTE: "Yes" vote limits grounds for rejecting and modifies procedures for verifying signatures on state initiative, referendum, and recall petitions; prohibits use of statistical sampling procedures.

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